"On the negative side," said Mrs. Moro "is the cost and the disposition of our present city building. We have no definite figures on what it would cost to convert the post office into a city building, but a rough guess would be about $150,000. Remember, we would not only have to renovate to house our financial, administrative, and legislative departments, but also our police department. That would involve renovations in accordance with state and federal laws — particularly as far as the jail goes.

"We don't know where this money would come from since federal programs are being cut or eliminated every day. I'm going to check with Sen. Robert Mellow and Congressman Joseph McDade to see if any state and/or federal grants are available for something like this. But at the moment it doesn't look promising."

Mrs. Moro told the group that if it was possible to move the municipal operation into the post office building, disposition of city hall would become a problem.

"There have been some feelings that if the city operation is moved to the post office, city hall could be turned over to the Carbondale Historical Society and the Committee To Restore City Hall, which have merged," she said. "But that, too, raises questions. Do you want it? And

where would you get the money to maintain and, possibly, restore it?

"I've always believed that if we ever did move out of city hall, that the building should be turned into a community museum. We have a very rich history here and it has always bothered me that our children have no opportunity to be exposed to that history. The first underground anthracite mine in America was located here on Seventh Avenue. The Gravity Railroad and Carbondale are synonymous. When we consider that construction of the Gravity Railroad and the Delaware & Hudson Canal from Honesdale to Rondout was the first million-dollar, privately financed undertaking in the history of the United States, the historical significance of the Gravity and Carbondale is apparent. I realize we're here to talk about the post office and not a museum, but I mention this because I think that in relation to the post office and city hall, we've got to begin thinking down the road, even five or 10 years from now."

Mrs. Moro proposed that "a working committee" involving representatives of the historical society, other interested citizens, and public officials be formed to study the idea "so that well-thought-out recommendations can be made to the mayor and council when they deliberate the future of our present city building and post office building."